

# PEHP Autism Pilot Program Update

## Executive Appropriations

June 17, 2014

- HB 272 created a two-year Autism Pilot Program to provide behavioral therapy for children of state employees from age 2 to 6.
- Families pay 20% of services after meeting a \$250 deductible. The maximum daily amount that PEHP pays is \$150 and the maximum annual amount that PEHP pays is \$24,000. Autism Coverage is a separate benefit from the health plan
- 23 children enrolled in the Pilot Program during the single open enrollment period. 20 remained on the program. Three others applied outside of the open enrollment period.
- The average claims cost per child is about \$13,500. There is no extra cost for administering the program.
- HB 88 made the Autism Pilot Program a permanent benefit starting July 1, 2014.
- Using the experience of the Autism Pilot, we anticipate the following costs:
  - FY15 \$350,000
  - FY16 \$365,000
  - FY17 \$380,000
- Two points of Interest:
  - PEHP has reevaluated our provider rates and lowered them on average.
  - In addition to HB 88, SB 57 passed during the 2014 General Session.
    - Starting in 2016, SB 57 requires individual and group plans over 100 cover behavioral therapy for children ages 2 to 9 for up to 600 hours.
    - SB 57 and HB 88 are different in three respects:
      - Age Ranges: 2 to 6 versus 2 to 9
      - Maximum Benefit Limits: Dollar versus Hours
      - Nature of Plan: Stand Alone versus Part of Health Plan
    - We view HB 88 as specifically applying to the State Risk Pool so we would continue to follow HB 88 after 2016 unless directed otherwise.